

CROSS EXAMINATION: *Questions from the King*

#5 HAVE YOU BELIEVED?

John 20:24-31 Jeff Schreve

But these things have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

What does God want us to learn through “Doubting Thomas”?

1. Like Thomas, we often have barriers to belief.

A. We have to deal with doubts.

B. We have to deal with hard hearts.

*And afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; **and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart**, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen. Mark 16:14*

...be not unbelieving, but believing. John 20:27

Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the LORD, that He may come and shower righteousness upon you. Hosea 10:12 NLT

2. Like Thomas, we are able to believe.

A. True belief is more than head knowledge.

Do you still think it is enough just to believe that there is one God? Well, even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. James 2:19 NLT

B. True belief is total surrender.

My Lord and My God. John 20:28

But you will say that although it is in the understanding, it does not follow that it is understood. But observe that the fact of its being understood does not necessitate its being in the understanding. For as what is conceived, is conceived by conception, and what is conceived by conception, as it is conceived, so is in conception; so what is understood, is understood by understanding, and what is understood by understanding, as it is understood, so is in the understanding. What can be more clear than this?

Anselm of Canterbury

3. Like Thomas, we receive when we believe.

...and that believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

A. Believers receive abundant life.

The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly. John 10:10

B. Believers receive eternal life.

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.

John 3:36 NIV

THE BIG QUESTION: Have YOU truly believed?